

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4947

S E C R E T MOSCOW 13818

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS - SECOND AND THIRD WEEK SUMMARY

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 19

1. SUMMARY. SECOND AND THIRD WEEK OF ROUND IV INCLUDED TWO PLENARY AND THREE WORKING GROUP MEETINGS. WORKING GROUP MEETINGS WERE MAINLY DEVOTED TO SOVIET INQUIRIES ABOUT TERMINOLOGY AND PRECISE MEANINGS OF TERMS OF SEVERAL SECTIONS OF DRAFT TREATY AND PROTOCOLS WITH MOST ATTENTION TO PROTOCOL I, IN PARTICULAR ARTICLE VI. SOVIETS STATED THAT THEY WILL ON SEPTEMBER 30 PROPOSE NEW LANGUAGE FOR THOSE PARTS OF PROTOCOL I THAT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED THUS FAR. END SUMMARY.

2. IN WORKING GROUP MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, SOVIETS ASKED ABOUT PRECISE MEANING OF CERTAIN ENGLISH TERMS IN TEXT. US DELEGATION OBTAINED CURRENT RUSSIAN TRANSLATION OF US DRAFT.

3. AT PLENARY, SEPTEMBER 16, SOVIETS ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF SOME SUBSTANTIVE POINTS OF TREATY AND PROTOCOLS, MOSTLY COVERING INFORMATION EXCHANGE, COOPERATION, AND OBSERVERS. THREE "POINTS OF PRINCIPLE" WERE RAISED: (A) OBSERVER ACCESS SHOULD BE LIMITED IN SOME UNSPECIFIED WAY TO PRESCRIBED ROUTES WITHIN 10 KILOMETER RADIUS OF EXPLOSION; (B) YIELD VERIFICATION EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE SUPPLIED BY HOST PARTY; (C) OBSERVERS SHOULD BE PRESENT ONLY

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AT DISCRETION OF HOST PARTY FOR EVENTS IN YIELD RANGE 100 - 150

KILOTONS. FORMATION OF TWO WORKING GROUPS WAS AGREED UPON--ONE TO STUDY INFORMATION EXCHANGE PROVISIONS AND SECOND TO DISCUSS PROVISIONS CONCERNING DESIGNATED PERSONNEL.

4. US STATEMENT (MOSCOW 13660) AT PLENARY SEPTEMBER 24 MADE PRELIMINARY REPLY TO SOME SOVIET POINTS OF SUBSTANCE. US SIDE ALSO HANDED OVER LIST OF SUGGESTED CHANGES TO DRAFT TEXT (MOSCOW 13660) IN RESPONSE TO SOME SOVIET POINT ON TERMINOLOGY.

5. WORKING GROUP TWO MEETING SEPTEMBER 25 (MOSCOW 13747) DEALT ONLY WITH PROTOCOL I ARTICLE VI. SOVIETS SUGGESTED AMENDING INTRODUCTORY WORDING OF THIS ARTICLE TO STATE THAT FUNCTION OF DESIGNATED PERSONNEL IS TO VERIFY YIELD AND PEACEFUL PURPOSE. SOVIETS LISTED FIVE POINTS THAT THEY SAY SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THIS ARTICLE: (A) FUNCTIONS OF DESIGNATED PERSONNEL SHOULD BE IN FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION; (B) VOLUME OF MEANS AND METHODS USED BY DESIGNATED PERSONNEL SHOULD BE MINIMAL; (C) DESIGNATED PERSONNEL MUST NOT REQUEST OR TRY TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT DESIGN OF NUCLEAR DEVICES; (D) DESIGNATED PERSONNEL SHOULD, IN CARRYING OUT THEIR FUNCTIONS, OBSERVE DOMESTIC LAW OF HOST COUNTRY. ACTIVITIES OF DESIGNATED PERSONNEL SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH WORK OF PROJECT (COMMENT: EVEN THOUGH THIS LOOKS LIKE A SEPARATE POINT, IT WAS STATED BY SOVIET SIDE AS PART OF THEIR FOURTH POINT); (E) DESIGNATED PERSONNEL SHOULD AGREE WITH HOST SIDE ON SCHEDULE AND PROGRAM OF WORK IN RELATION TO EACH PROJECT. SOVIETS ASKED FOR EXPLANATIONS OF SCOPE AND METHODS OF GEOLOGIC DATA COLLECTION, WHAT OPTICAL EQUIPMENT IS NEEDED AND WHY, AND WHAT IS MEANT BY CONTINUOUS OBSERVATION OF EMPLACEMENT HOLE.

6. WORKING GROUP ONE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 26 (MOSCOW 13775) DISCUSSED SOVIET QUESTIONS RELATED TO VOLUME AND TYPE OF INFORMATION NEEDED. SOVIET SIDE EMPHASIZED THEIR VIEW THAT THERE IS NO DISAGREEMENT OF SUBSTANCE ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE. SOVIET SIDE SAID THAT AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE THEY WOULD PREFER TO HAVE PROTOCOL I INCLUDE ALL INFORMATION EXCHANGE PROVISIONS AND PROTOCOL II INCLUDE ALL PROVISIONS CONCERNING DESIGNATED PERSONNEL.

7. SOVIETS SAID THEY WOULD PRESENT LANGUAGE INCORPORATING THEIR SUGGESTIONS TO DATE AT WORKING GROUP ONE MEETING TUESDAY.

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8. SOVIET SIDE ASKED HOW EMPLACEMENT HOLES THAT ARE ALREADY IN EXISTENCE AT THE PRESENT TIME WOULD BE HANDLED UNDER TERMS OF US TEXT WHICH CALL FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE BEFORE DRILLING BEGINS.

9. TWO MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK. MONDAY, WORKING GROUP TWO AND TUESDAY, WORKING GROUP ONE.

10. DELEGATION COMMENTS ON CURRENT STATUS REPORTED MOSCOW 13772.

MATLOCK

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